Bio-Informatics and Digital DNA Parks

4983. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :
SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has initiated a programme on Bio-informatics and digital DNA Parks to meet the large needs of bio-technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which his Ministry is coordinating with the Department of Bio-technology and the industry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A programme has been initiated to set up a Digital DNA Park in one of the existing Bio-technology parks in collaboration with the Department of Bio-technology.

In addition, the C-DAC's (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing) Terascale super computing facility (PARAM Padma) can be used for bio-informatics development and research.

(c) Digital DNA Park is being formulated in collaboration with the Department of Bio-technology.

Waiting list of telephone connections

4984. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that 23 lakh people all over the country are still waiting to get telephone connections;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what specific measures Government have taken or proposed to take to reduce the waiting list;

(d) the details of circles where the waiting list is more than one lakh, State-wise; and

(e) the measures Ministry has taken to reduce the waiting list in such circles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir. The total waiting list in the country as on 31-3-2003 is 18.06 lakh.

(b) The generation of waiting list is a continuous process. The major portion of the waiting list is scattered mainly in the far-flung and rural areas where provision of new telephone connections is not cost effective.

(c) For reducing the waiting list Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. has planned to provide 14 lakh wired line, 16.61 Lakh WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) phones and 30 lakh mobile phones during 2003-04.

(d) The details of Telecom circles where waiting list is more than 1 lakh is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(e) Higher targets of DELs (Direct Exchange Lines) have been set for the circles having higher waiting list during 2003-04. Priority for allotment of equipment is given to circles having large waiting list. At the same equipment distribution/allotment is also balanced among all the States/Circles.

Statement

Telecom circles where waiting list is more than one lakh as on 31-3-03

Sl. No.	Telecom Circle	Waiting List
1.	Bihar	101154
2.	Karnataka	104506
3.	Kerala	487499
4.	Maharashtra	159583
5.	Punjab	103371
6.	Rajasthan	130673
7.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	107119
8.	West Bengal	148239
	TOTAL	1342144
	TOTAL BSNL	1806577